

Russ Tinkler, waiting anxiously for opening day.

Holberg Will Be Major Camp

HOLBERG - Rayonier Canada (B. C.) Ltd. is midway through a three-year expansion program that will see the company's logging camp here become one of the largest and most modern on Vancouver Island.

The program, which began last year, includes:

- An increase in family dwellings from 20 to 55, using principally houses brought from the old townsite of Port Alice.

- Provision of space for 35 or more mobile homes.

- Replacement of old, substandard bunkhouses with new quarters for unmarried employees.

- More provision for recreation, including a new community hall and ball park.

- New sewer and water systems and new buildings for shops and camp services.

Despite unforeseen problems, such as the heavy rainfall in 1968 when there were 200 inches of precipitation compared with the long term average of 180 inches and site preparation snags run into because of the nature of the terrain, the first phase of the program was finished close to schedule.

Present camp facilities are located on the flood plain of the **Goodspeed River**, the only flat land in the area, where a site was developed by filling in 1956. Cost of fill and the drainage problem makes the site something less than ideal, but it has been decided that, to consolidate the facilities, further filling will be undertaken.

Townsite development presented a different problem. One of the two sites available, offering good building ground, is about three miles up the Goodspeed from the present location. However, it would be removed from the rest of the community, require separate water, sewer and power facilities and not have the attraction of the sea.

The company decided, despite difficulties in preparation because of sub-surface rock, to develop an area adjacent to the present townsite. The new subdivision area, which

meets legal requirements, provides for about 100 home-sites, and may be expanded if required. Building locations, painting and landscaping are being co-ordinated to give a pleasing and attractive end result.

Water supply has turned out to be a major problem. Despite the heavy rainfall and apparent excess of water, the rivers and creeks in the area go dry in the summer. For this reason, the present system, built in 1956 and taking water from a stream which has been dammed, has proven inadequate. Also, the source is below the level of the new townsite area. It was decided that a well should be drilled. It turned out, however, to be two holes in the ground instead of one. The first hole failed to produce water.

Water from the second, successful hole will be fed into a 50,000 gallon reserve tank at a satisfactory elevation to serve the community.

Another unplanned, and unbudgeted problem came about with new regulations covering sewage disposal. With dumping of raw sewage into the **Goodspeed River** now forbidden, the company has installed a Spiragester sewage treatment plant in which bacterial action reduces sewage to an almost purified condition before it is discharged into the sea.

Electric power is to be provided by two 300 horsepower diesel generators, one of which is already installed.

One of the main considerations in a camp such as this is recreation. This has been provided mainly by the facilities of the nearby armed forces station. However, the station may not always be there and it is also necessary to provide at least minimum facilities at the camp itself.

A former refrigeration building at the abandoned whaling station at Coal Harbor has been obtained, and will be transformed into a gymnasium. Included will be such related facilities as coffee shop, pool hall, library and reading room and others.

A playing field for soccer and baseball will be cleared and equipment will be obtained to sustain a satisfactory recreation program. Help has been given the West Quatsino Television Society in its successful bid to bring TV to the Quatsino Sound area.

It is seen that in the future

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PORT ALICE - A novel form of municipal administration within Mt. Waddington Regional District has been suggested by Mayor John Van Der Elst.

Under the plan put forward by the mayor last week the regional district clerk would act as clerk for the four municipalities in the district, keeping copies of all bylaws and records and giving information and advice to deputy clerks in each community. Thus each municipality would retain its identity and have someone to carry on the administration, but the central point of direction would be the district office.

"It seems foolish to me that each municipality should have to hire a clerk at a salary in the \$10,000 range," said the mayor. "The job could be done at far less cost if it weren't necessary to have a highly-qualified clerk in each place.

"You also have to remember Parkinson's Law," he added. "There is always the tendency to build up a little empire, with a big staff of clerks. There must be an effort made to get away from all this duplication."

Municipal shares of the cost should be on a per

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there will be more demand for commercial services, at present supplied by a small store in the camp and a Hudson's Bay Co. store at the armed forces station. A small commercial area will be allowed for in the plans, with its development to come as demand arises.

Land access to the camp from Port Hardy will continue to be on a limited access basis, but the company is up-grading its part of the 37-mile road, hitherto the most difficult section for travellers.

Reason behind the camp expansion is the increase in production which, by 1971, will have risen from the present 75 million board feet to 125 million board feet of logs. The increase has been made possible by the purchase of timber in the San Josef area from Georgia Pacific International Corp., an increase in the allowable cut in the company's tree farm license and an increased quota in the Kingcome Public Working Circle.

Although the camp was always envisaged as a private community, it was decided to lay everything out to conform to legal subdivision standards, in the remote possibility that it might, some day, become an open community as have Port Alice and Port McNeill, both former company camps.

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